

Application No. 10/622,919

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A fishing line container assembly, comprising:
a fishing line compartment including:
a first flap having an outer area and an inner area, and
at least a first strap including a single strap element with both an attached end and an attaching end, wherein said attached end is fixed to said inner area of said first flap, wherein said first strap has an open state and a closed state, said first strap being usable to join a first spool to said first flap when said first strap is in said closed state, wherein in said open state and in said closed state said attaching end is interconnected to said inner area of said first flap through a middle portion of said single strap element, and wherein in said closed state said attaching end of said single strap element is also releasably fixed to said inner area of said first flap to form a closed loop.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Previously Presented) The fishing line container assembly of Claim 1 wherein said attaching end of said single strap element has a first mating element and said attached end of said single strap element has a second mating element and in which said mating elements are joined together when said first strap is in said closed state.
4. (Original) The fishing line container assembly of Claim 1 wherein said first strap includes a Velcro® strap.
5. (Currently Amended) The fishing line container assembly of Claim 1 wherein said first flap has a hinged section and a movable section and in which said attached end is located closer to said movable section than to said hinged section.

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6. (Original) The fishing line container assembly of Claim 1 wherein said first strap has a length and said inner area has a lateral extent and in which said first strap length is greater than one-half of said lateral extent.

7. (Previously Presented) The fishing line container assembly of Claim 1 further comprising a second strap usable in joining a second spool to said flap, said second strap being spaced along a longitudinal extent of said first flap from said first strap.

8. (Previously Presented) The fishing line container assembly of Claim 1 wherein said attaching end of said first strap element is joined to said attached end of said first strap element by a snap connection to provide said closed state.

9. (Previously Presented) A fishing line container assembly, comprising:
a fishing line compartment including:
a flap having an outer area and an inner area,
at least a first strap having an attached end and being defined by an open state and a closed state, said first strap being usable to join a first spool to said flap when said first strap is in said closed state; and
at least a first cover, said at least a first cover fixed to said first flap on a first side of said first strap and on a second side of said first strap, wherein a free edge of said at least a first cover creates a sleeve or pocket capable of receiving at least a portion of said first strap.

10. (Original) The fishing line container assembly of Claim 9 wherein said first cover has at least a first connection segment joined to said flap.

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11. (Previously Presented) The fishing line container assembly of Claim 9 wherein said first cover has a lateral extent extending laterally along said first flap and in which said first cover lateral extent is less than the length of said first strap.

12. (Original) The fishing line container assembly of Claim 9 wherein said attached end is laterally spaced from said first cover.

13. (Original) The fishing line container assembly of Claim 9 further comprising a second cover having at least a first connection segment joined to said flap and said first cover has a second connection segment joined to said flap adjacent to said first connection segment of said second cover.

14. (Currently Amended) A fishing line container assembly, comprising:
a fishing line compartment including:
a flap having an outer area and an inner area,
at least a first strap having an attached end and being defined by an open state and a closed state, said first strap being usable to join a first spool to said flap when said first strap is in said closed state, wherein said first flap includes a first piece of material forming an exterior of said fishing line ~~compartment~~ compartment and at least a first access hole for receiving fishing line therethrough, wherein said access hole is within a perimeter of said first piece of material forming said exterior of said fishing line compartment.

15. (Original) A fishing line container assembly of Claim 1 further including at least a primary container area joined to but spaced from said fishing line compartment.

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16. (Original) The fishing line container assembly of Claim 1 further comprising a support subassembly for holding at least said fishing line compartment adjacent to a user's body.

17. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating use of fishing line by a fisher, comprising:

providing at least a first spool having a bore and fishing line;

inserting a strap through said bore;

establishing a closed state of said strap and forming a loop, wherein at a first section between said bore and an outer circumference said spool is held by said strap, and wherein at a second section between said bore and said outer circumference that is diametrically opposite said first section said spool is free from said strap; and

locating said fishing line from said first spool for use by the fisher.

18. (Original) The method of Claim 17 further including creating tension on said fishing line when pulled from said first spool using at least portions of said strap within said bore.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17 wherein said strap has an attached end and an attaching end and in which said inserting step includes inserting said attaching end through said bore, and wherein said establishing a closed state of said strap includes securing said attaching end to one of said attached end and an area proximate to said attached end.

20. (Original) The method of Claim 17 wherein a cover overlies at least portions of said first spool.

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21. (Original) The method of Claim 20 wherein said inserting step includes inserting said strap while said bore is located outwardly of said cover.

22. (Original) The method of Claim 21 wherein said locating step includes positioning at least portions of said first spool under said cover.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein in said closed state of said strap, a first surface of said strap at a first location along said strap is adjacent said first surface of said strap at a second location along said strap, wherein in said closed state said first and second locations are not within an outside diameter of said at least a first spool.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein in said closed state said strap encloses an area having a length that is less than a diameter of said first spool.